Laying of telephone Cables in Mainpuri, UP

†796. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI R.N. ARYA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to laying of telephone cables only six inches deep in Mainpuri, there have been incidents of theft of telephones cables in the urban and rural areas during the last two years resulting hardship to the consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any scheme to connect these rural areas through the Wireless in Local Loop during the current year, in view of difficulties being faced by the consumers;

(d) if so, by when such scheme would be launched in this district; and

(e) the villages, which would be connected with this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. WLL equipment for 500 lines each for Mainpuri, Bhogaon, Karhal, Shikohabad and Jasrana tehsils has been ordered and expected to be supplied by end of March, 2002, which is proposed to be installed immediately after receipt. Villages falling in 25 Km area of these tehsils will be covered by this facility.

Increase in GDP due to earnings by IT

†797. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been increase in gross domestic product of the country as a result of the earnings made through information technology during the last few years;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the percentage of the share of this industry in gross domestic product during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the number of people engaged in this industry three years ago and their likely number by the end of this?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. There has been a steady increase in the contribution to the GDP, by the Indian IT software and services industry.

(b) The percentage share in GDP of IT software and services industry during the period has been as under:

1999-2000	2.03%
2000-2001	2.81%
2001-2002	2.87%

(c) As per the NASSCOM estimate, the number of people engaged in the IT software and services industry during the corresponding period is as under:

1999-2000	340,000
2000-2001	410,000
2001-2002	520,000

Foreign Parcel Post Offices in Gujarat

798. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Foreign Parcel Post Offices in Gujarat;

(b) the number of parcels received in these post offices during the last two years;

(c) whether Government are aware of the hardships faced by the people of the State to collect foreign parcels by travelling a long distance;

(d) if so, whether Government have any plan to open more Foreign Parcel Post Offices in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, location-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?